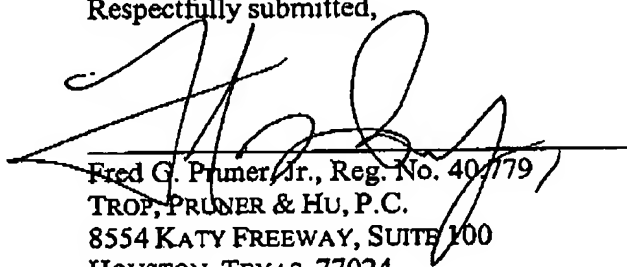


REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 9-19, 22-24 and 28-30 have been cancelled without prejudice. The Examiner indicated in the Advisory Action that claims 25-27 and 31 would be allowed if newly-added claim 31 was submitted in a separate amendment that included the cancellation of the remaining rejected claims. Therefore, in view of the present amendment, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (SHL.0268US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 21, 2005



Fred G. Pruner, Jr., Reg. No. 40779
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 KATY FREEWAY, SUITE 100
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024
713/468-8880 [Phone]
713/468-8883 [Fax]